

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B01L3/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to daim No.
Х	WO 00/25923 A (DAVIES MARTIN CLEMENT; ELMES STUART ANTONY (GB); MILNE WILLIAM IRELAN) 11 May 2000 (2000-05-11) cited in the application	1,2,4-6, 16-19
Υ	abstract page 1, line 1 - page 2, line 16; claim 1 page 5, line 9 - page 6, line 7; figures 8,11	10-13
Y	WO 99/36760 A (FLOWERS PETER T; HONKANEN PETER (US); MACE MYLES L (US); MONTAGU JEAN) 22 July 1999 (1999-07-22) abstract; figures 1G,2,4	10-13
A	US 6 365 349 B1 (TABONE JOHN C ET AL) 2 April 2002 (2002-04-02) abstract column 3, lines 41-51; figures -/	10-13

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents:  'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	<ul> <li>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but died to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</li> <li>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</li> <li>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</li> <li>*&amp;* document member of the same patent family</li> </ul>
Date of the actual completion of the international search  18 March 2005	Date of mailing of the international search report 06/04/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Semino, D

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Internal Application No
PCT/FR2004/050587

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C.(Continua Category °	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT  Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	US 5 486 337 A (OHKAWA ET AL) 23 January 1996 (1996-01-23) column 5, lines 27-47; figure 1 column 7, lines 8-35; figure 4 column 7, lines 53-67; figure 6	1,25,26
A	US 6 416 294 B1 (GRUHLER HOLGER ET AL) 9 July 2002 (2002-07-09) abstract; figures 1,2 column 10, lines 46-54	1,16
P,A	FR 2 839 662 A (CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE CNRS) 21 November 2003 (2003-11-21) page 1, line 5 - page 6, line 28; figures 1-6	1,25,26
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